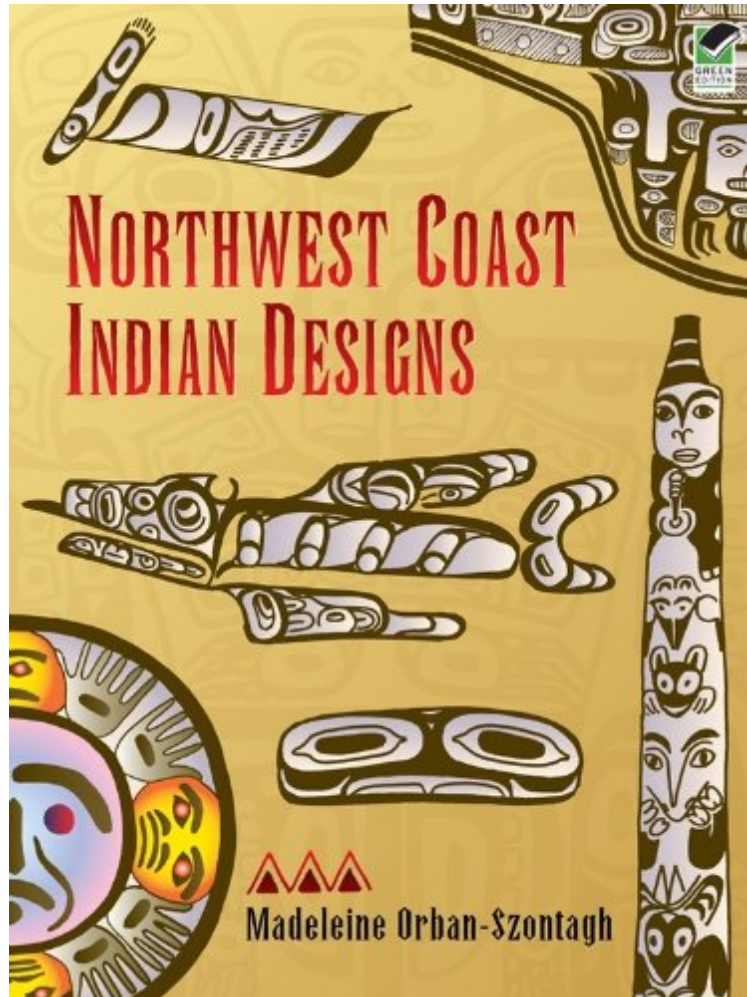


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## Northwest Coast Indian Designs (Dover Pictorial Archive)

*Madeleine Orban-Szontagh*

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**Madeleine Orban-Szontagh : Northwest Coast Indian Designs (Dover Pictorial Archive)** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Northwest Coast Indian Designs (Dover Pictorial Archive):

16 of 16 people found the following review helpful. Sloppy, poor quality drawings  
By D. Cole  
The contents of this book are useless to the graphics professional. They are hand-drawn illustrations of some other art form, but they are not art themselves. They are sloppy. Wobbly, clumsy line art without a hint of the sophisticated thick-thin line quality that is characteristic and key to northwest native art. At best I'd say this book is full of "cartoon" representations. Don't judge the craftsmanship of the venerable native artists by this book. Their skill was far superior. The images in this book, although 100-300 years the younger, appear much more primitive than the original art that it is supposed to represent. Who might find this book useful? Kids making book reports about native American art. Maybe a crafter looking for some vague sense of inspiration. An artist might find some reference on the composition of PNW native art here, but specific elements are wobbly, sloppy and poorly rendered, so you would need some other reference to see

get a complete picture. If you are a professional designer, architect or an artist looking for actual images or even elements that you can use in graphic design such as packaging, or interior decor - or perhaps a jewelry designer, sculptor or painter, there is nothing of use to you in this volume. Maybe it's not intended for that audience. 4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Waste of paper By D. Cole Not only is the content of this book, poorly rendered and amateurish, but the same book is available with a different cover design, so if you're not careful, and buying hastily, you can buy the same waste of paper TWICE! The images in this book are simply unusable, and I doubt even inspirational. They are poor-quality, sloppy illustrations that sort of "refer to" a wonderful native art form, but do not mistake, they do not do it justice. If you are looking for a source of actual, usable graphics for a project needing some NW native art - for jewelry design, graphic design, architecture, etc - this is NOT that book. Looks like it was drawn by an inexperienced and lazily teenager, not a professional designer or illustrator. The original native artists who created the work that this book is attempting to represent were a thousand times more careful and talented, with steady hands and impeccable eyes to design, composition, line quality, contrast and overall visual effect. None of that comes though in the pages of this graphic disgrace. 8 of 9 people found the following review helpful. Simplistic, Misleading, Not Useful By Pooh Guy When this book came out, there were surprisingly few books about Pacific Northwest Coast artwork, and many of the books that had been written were out of print. I suppose it's possible that the author or publisher honestly felt they saw a niche that needed to be filled, and intended to produce a simple, helpful book. But regardless of their intent, the impression I came away with was that this book was thrown together in order to cash in on the rising interest and, at that time, paucity of reference material related to this artform. The book is remarkably short, there is a lack of useful information about the artform or its elements, and many of the designs that are included in the book do not even appear to be native to this style of art. I hate to pan a book, because I'm a part-time writer myself, but facts are facts. Regardless of what you are looking for when it comes to Northwest Coast Art - how to understand it, style variations amongst different northwest tribes, how to draw this type of art, etc. -- this book will not provide it for you. The only reason I can think of for buying this book is because you want a copy of every book ever written on the topic. Otherwise, don't waste your money on this one.[...]

In this volume, noted illustrator Madeleine Orban-Szontagh renders designs produced by the Indians of the Pacific Northwest, Alaska, and the western coast of Canada: Nootka, Kwakiutl, Tlingit, Haida, Tsimshian, and other groups. More than 270 original designs include stylized plants, birds and animals, abstract borders and repeating patterns, totemic images and symbols, and a host of other decorative elements. These arresting and beautiful Native American images lend themselves to use in a wide range of Indian-related graphic art and craft projects, as well as providing a rich source of design inspiration.